

His Majesties
GRACIOUS
LETTER
TO HIS
PARLIAMENT
OF
SCOTLAND,

May 23. 1672.

WITH
THEIR ANSWER.

AS ALSO
The Speech
OF
His Grace the Lord Duke of *Lauderdail*,
His Majesties High Commissioner for His
Kingdom of *Scotland*, at the opening of this
Session of PARLIAMENT.
June 12. 1672.


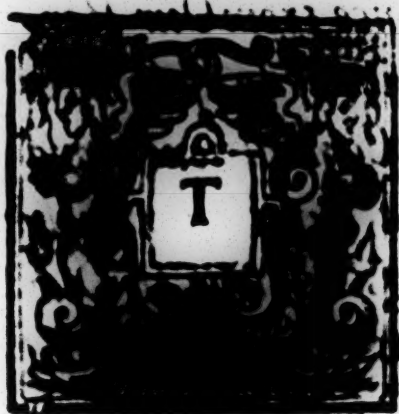
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Majesty. 1672.

HIS

May the 23d. 1672.

CHARLES R.

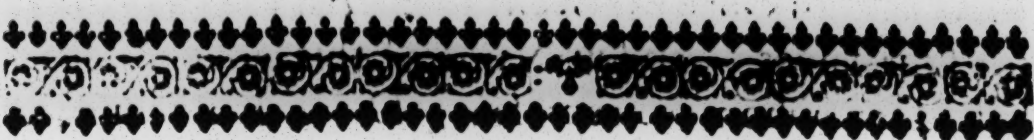


He constant Proofs We have
had of your Loyalty and Zeal
for our Service in your former
Sessions, give Us assurance of
the continuance of it in this;
especially since our Princi-
pall Designin calling you to-
gether at this time, is, that you may consider
your own Security, as well as Our Honor and
Interest, now whilst we are Engaged in a very
Just and Necessary War, against the States Ge-
neral of the United Provinces; And that you
may provide fitting Remedies against all Accidents
that may befall through this Occasion, We have al-
waies been very Tender of any thing which might
bring Burdens upon that Our Antient Kingdom;
and therefore We propose nothing, but leave you to
provide for your own Safety, and Our Honor, by such
wayes as may be most Suitable to the Condition of
the Kingdom. We have instructed the Duke of
Lauder-

Lauderdaile Our Commissioner, fully in all things relating to Our Service, or your Advantage; And he can well Inform you of Our constant Affection to, and Care of all the Concerns of that Our Kingdom; And of him We think fit to tell you, that the Long and Great Sufferings be both endured for Us, and the many and great Services be both done to Us, have made Us put upon him, the greatest Marks of Our Favour; And that if it were not the Care We have of the Welfare of that Our Kingdom, We could not have dispenced with His absence from Our Person at this time, when his Service is so usefull to Us: And therefore from such a Commissioner, and such a Parliament, We cannot but expect, not onely a readiness to concur in all things relating to Our Service, but such prudent Resolutions from this Session, as the Subjects of that Our Kingdom, and their Posterity, may reap Honor and Prosperity by them: And so We bid you heartily Farewell.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the three and twentieth day of May, 1672. and of Our Reign the Twenty fourth Year.

To the Lords Spiritual and Temporal,
and the Commissioners of Shires
and of Burroughs Assembled in
our Parliament of Scotland.



THE
ANSWER
OF THE
PARLIAMENT
OF SCOTLAND,
TO
HIS MAJESTIES
GRACIOUS
LETTER.

Most Sacred SOVERAIGN,

I He many Proofs Your Majesty hath been pleased to Give of Your constant affection to, and care of, the Concerns of this Your Ancient Kingdom, with the renewed Expressions thereof, contained in Your Letter of the 23. of May last, engageth Us Your Parliament of Scotland, from time to time to renew Our Acknowledgments, and the Returns of Our Allegiance, Loyalty, and Obedience to Your Majesty; but more especially at this time, when Your Majesty is engaged in a most Just and Necessary War against the *States General* of the *United Provinces*: The Motives and Grounds whereof have been so fully represented to Us by the Duke of *Lauderdale*, Your Majesties Commissioner, That we conceive our Selves obliged in Duty, to make this Solemn Declaration of the Sense and Resentments we have of Your Majesties Honour and Interests in it, as well as of what

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may

may concern Our own Security : And therefore We for Our selves , and in Name of this your Ancient Kingdom whom we represent, Do with all humble Duty Declare ; That as Your Majesties Safety, Honour and Interest are Near and Dear to Us above all things in this World, so we will be ready on all occasions, with cheartulness, to offer Our Lives and Fortunes, in this and every Case wherein they or any of them may be concerned ; And in order thereunto, We shall be careful to provide effectually for the Security of this Your Kingdom against Invasion and Intelline Commotions, which the Enemy may endeavour to raise and toment, and so settle the *Militia*, as that the Forces of this Kingdom may be in readyness, whenever Your Majesty shall be pleased to make use of them for Your Honour and Interest.

Your Majesty will receive more particular Accounts of Our proceedings from Your Commissioner, whose Eminent Sufferings and Services for Your Majesty and Your Royal Father of Blessed Memory have justly recommended him to these greatest Marks of your Royal Favour, which Your Majesty has most worthily conferred upon him ; And experience of whose Usefulness in the former Sessions of Parliament, hath rendred his presence so necessary, for carrying on Your Majesties Service here at this time, That we are confident by his Grace's Assistance and conduct, the Retules of this Session shall prove for the advancement of Your Majesties Honour, and the Security, Peace, and Quiet of this Your ancient Kingdom. And this We have ordered to be Signed by Your Majesties Chancellor, in Name of,

*Your Majesties most Faithful, most Obedient,
and most Humble Subjects and Servants,*

R O T H E S, Cancel. I. P. D. Pat.

Eastburgh. 18. June, 1671.

For the KING'S most Sacred and
Excellent Majesty.

T H E



THE
S P E E C H

Of His GRACE

The Lord Duke of *LAUDERDAILE*,

HIS MAJESTIES

High COMMISSIONER for His
Kingdom of *SCOTLAND*, at the
Opening of this Session of Parliament,
June the 12th. 1672.

My Lords and Gentlemen,



Y the Kings Gracious Letter you see, he hath again sent me hither to have the Honour to serve him in this Station; and in this Letter His Majesty hath been pleased, so fully and so Graciously to repeat the great sense he hath of your Loyalty and Zeal for his Service in your former Sessions, together with his confident assurance of the continuance of it now also, that I shall not offer to enlarge what you have heard better express under his own Royal hand: Yet seeing the Kings principal Design in calling you now together is, That you may seriously consider his Honour and Interest, and your own Security (which are indeed inseparable) and that you may effectually provide for both, against all accidents, during this so just, so necessary, and even so unavoidable a War into which he is Engaged; It hath pleased His Majesty to command me to acquaint you with that Grounds and Motives of it. I need not put you in mind how soon after his Happy Return, His Majesty made it his Work to settle Peace, and establish a good Correspondence with all his Neighbours, and particularly with the *States General of the United Provinces*; he could not forget their early compliance with a pretended Ambassador from thence, who gave their Authority for the Murder of His

His Royal Father; nor how after *Worcester* they emitted a Proclamation against Foreign Princes coming into their *Country* without leave; he well knew whom they meant; neither forgot he their Barbarous Banishing him and his Royal Brother; yet he generously Sacrificed his own Reclamations, to his great desires of Peace, and did conclude a strict League with them upon equal Terms. This League the King kept inviolably on his part: But in the Year 1664. His Majesty was stirred up by the Complaints of his People, and the unanimous Votes of His Two Houses of Parliament in *England*, to a just Reclamment of the Injuries and Oppressions of those States; yet that Summer was spent in Negotiations and Endeavors to bring them to reasonable Terms, which proving ineffectual, the War ensued in the Year 1665. and continued to 1667, wherein His Majesties Victories and their Losses, were memorable enough, to put them in mind of being more Faithful to their Leagues: But instead of that, the Peace was no sooner made at *Breda*, then they returned to their usual Custom of breaking Articles. I shall not repeat their manifest violations of the Articles relating to the *East* and *West* *Indies*, which are instanced in the Kings Declaration of War; nor insist on their protecting some of the worst of Subjects of this Kingdom, who Printed most Treasonable infamous Libels against the King and his Government, and scattered them here, (such the Dutch Ambassadors were called upon to perform the Treaty of *Breda* in relation to such) but they rose yet higher, even to the scandal of His Majesties Person and Authority, filling their Towns with abusive Pictures, and false Historical Medals and Pillars, some of them by command of the States themselves, which certainly ought to raise the highest Indignation in the Hearts of all his good Subjects: then they proceeded to another palpable violation of the last Treaty: The respect due to His Majesties Flag in the *British Seas* is most antient and unquestionable; it is expressly acknowledged in the Treaty of *Breda*; yet last Summer it was not only violated by their Commanders at Sea, and that violation afterward justified at the *Hague*, but it was also insolently represented in many Courts abroad, as ridiculous for His Majesty to Demand; Notwithstanding all those Breaches and Provocations, His Majesty patiently expected satisfaction, whilist they ceased not to provoke, and endeavored to engage the most Christian King against His Majesty, of which they thought themselves so secure, that for above a Year, they threatened the King with it. At length hearing nothing from them, the King sent an Ambassador to them, who after many pressing Memorials, could receive no answer till after he had declared his revocation; Then they offered a Paper to this Effect, That in this Conjunction, they would condescend to strike to the Kings Flag, if he would assist them against the French; but upon

upon condition, that it should never be taken for a Precedent here-
 after to their prejudice: Since the return of the Kings Ambassa-
 dor, they sent an extraordinary Order to the Admirall, who would not
 any offer of Satisfaction, till he should send back to his Masters
 Thus knowing that no good was to be done by Treaties with them,
 whom no former Obligations, nor ties of Blood, nor of a League
 can bind, His Majesty hath been forced to a Declaration of His Reso-
 lution, and the security of all his Subjects, to enter into a War.
 And I am Commanded to acquaint you how careful His Majesty
 hath been by good and Honourable Treaties, to engage his
 Neighbouring Friends and Allies, that this War may be carried
 the more safely, and to bring down their Pride and Intolerance, and to
 secure His Kingdomes against them. His Majesty hath also taken
 with all the World Blesses, and although what Power God
 to bless His Majesties Forces, and that a considerable Impression is already made
 upon the Enemy, and that by the continuance of the Divine assis-
 tance, we may reasonably hope for good success; yet seeing the
 Event of War, never so just, is uncertain, it is absolutely neces-
 sary to provide in time against Foreign Invasion, or intestine
 Commotions, which will be endeavored to be raised here by the
 Enemy, who contrary to Treaty entertain and cherish the most
 Seditious of the Kings Subjects, and who have engaged in their
 Forces both by Sea and Land divers out of the three Kingdoms,
 contrary to their Allegiance, into open War against the King.
 Therefore I am Commanded most seriously to recommend to this
 Parliament, the Safety of this Kingdom, in either of those cases.
 You know my, Lords and Gentlemen, how loth His Majesty hath
 been to lay extraordinary Burdens on this Kingdom, and how ex-
 actly careful, that the Supply granted by the last Session, should
 not in the least be diverted from the uses for which it was designed.
 And although He hath no occasion to lay any Burden on you upon
 his own account, yet he is most assured you will provide such
 effectual means, as the Forces of this Kingdom may upon occasion
 serve for His Majesties Honor and Interest, and may be a terror to
 His Enemies, and a security to this Kingdom, and I do leave the
 Wayes and Means of this so absolutely necessary a Work, to your
 own consideration

I am particularly Commanded to renew again to you the assu-
 rances of His Majesties most constant continuance, in his unalter-
 able resolutions, to maintain the true Reformed Protestant Religi-
 on and the Government of this Church, by Arch-Bishops, and Bi-
 shops, whatever Seditious and Disaffected Persons may suggest to
 the contrary, and I am fully impowered to all such farther Acts, as
 you shall judge convenient, for the quieting the Minds of peace-
 able People, and for Curbing and punishing Seditious Con-
 venticles,

ticles, for preventing the increase of Schism, and by all good means securing the Peace of the Church.

You have certainly been informed of the Lette that past at London, towards the Treaty of Union, If you think it necessary you shall have a particular account, and though nothing was concluded, yet his Majesties Fatherly care of both his Kingdoms will appear, and the Faithfulness of those named by His Majesty for this Kingdom, together with their care of the Rights, Priviledges and Interests of Scotland.

In the last place I am to let you know, that by His Majesties Grace and Favor, I am sufficiently Impowered toward whatsoever Laws shall be found fit and convenient for the peace and Good of this Kingdom in all its concerns, so by Gods Blessing, and your prudent care, we may all be confident, of a happy conclusion of this Session of Parliament.

F I N I S.
